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United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

JAN 17 2006

Mr. Robert E. Coker
Senior Vice President
Public Affairs
United States Sugar Corporation
111 Ponce de Leon Avenue
Clewiston, Florida 33440

Dear Mr. Coker:

Thank you for your letter and statement setting forth the views of the U.S. Sugar Corporation and the Florida Sugar Cane League on the 2007 Farm Bill. We appreciate your sharing your insights and recommendations with us on this important legislation.

Farm Bill issues are and will continue to be a major focus of the Department of Agriculture, and it is good to have the benefit of your groups' collective wisdom and experience in this regard. I assure you that the ideas you have expressed will be given full consideration as the Department develops its proposals for the bill.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Johanns", written in a cursive style.

Mike Johanns
Secretary